



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **TAKAHASHI, Hideyuki et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3721

Serial No.: 09/856,497

Examiner: **John L. Anderson**

Filed: **September 24, 2001**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 2772

For: **MEDICATION FILLING APPARATUS**

RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
DATED May 20, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

JUN 25 2003

Date: **June 20, 2003**

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated **May 20, 2003**.

In the Action, restriction is required between **Group (I)**, Claims 1-5 and 10-11, drawn to a medication filling apparatus with a plurality of hoppers; and **Group (II)**, Claims 6-9, drawn to a medication filling apparatus with a plurality of hoppers and a holding cell.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of **Group (I)**, Claims 1-5 and 10-11, drawn to a medication filling apparatus with a plurality of hoppers, for prosecution in this application.

This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC 120 and 35 USC 121 are retained.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

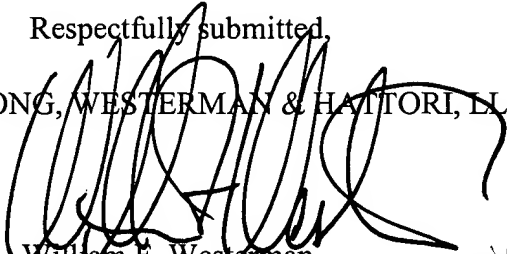
By: **Hideyuki TAKAHASHI et al.**

Serial No. **09/856,497**

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please
charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP


William F. Westerman
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 29,988

Nicholas Bromer

WFW/meu
Atty. Docket No. **010696**
Suite 1000
1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930



23850

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

WFW/meu